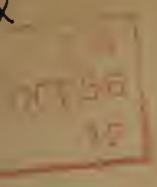
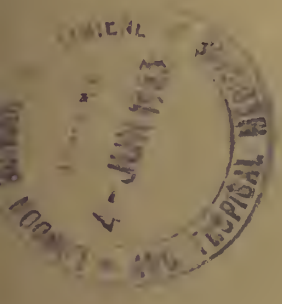


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Hollingbourn Rural District Council



Annual Report for the Year 1955

ON

THE HEALTH OF THE

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

P. JACOB GAFFIKIN, M.C., M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1955

- on -

THE HEALTH OF THE HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT

- by the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

P. JACOB GAFFIKIN, M.C., M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT

Report of the Medical Officer of Health, for the Year
ended December 31st. 1955.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Hollingbourn Rural District
Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present to you my Annual Report on the Health and
Sanitary Condition of the Hollingbourn Rural District, for
the year 1955.

I am glad to report that the health of the Rural District
has been good during the year. The death rate per 1,000 of the
estimated resident population has risen slightly above that for
1954, the crude death rate being 11.00 and the corrected rate
9.68, against 9.88 and 8.69 for the preceding year, but the
infantile death rate has dropped from 27.66 to 17.02 and again
I have the satisfaction of recording a maternal death-rate of "Nil".

Only three cases of scarlet fever were notified during
the year and there were also three cases of anterior polio-
myelitis. All three of these were treated in hospital and I am
glad to say, none was fatal. In my 1954 report, I commented on
the small number of notifications of measles, but in 1955, this
disease was prevalent and showed a total of 235 cases. I am
happy to report that the disease was of a mild type; only one
case required admission to hospital and there were no deaths,
but the tendency at present would seem to be for scarlet fever
to become less prevalent and certainly less virulent, while
measles and whooping cough are becoming more serious epidemiological
problems. The heavier incidence of measles was a feature of the
year under review and was shared by the adjacent Districts.

Some progress has been made in the demolition of unfit
houses, but progress in this matter has to be co-ordinated with
the provision of new housing. The public water supplies are
adequate and excellent in quality; the extension of these public
water supplies, which now reaches every part of your district
in which it is possible for a piped supply to be laid, has
emphasised the need for main drainage and adequate provision for
sewage disposal. The cess-pit emptying service is expensive
and in this populous and well cultivated area, immense difficulty
is experienced in the finding of sites where the contents of
cess-pits can be discharged, without causing nuisance or endangering
water supplies.

I should like to express my appreciation of having been
allowed to continue as your Medical Officer of Health and of the
support and consideration which I have always received from the
Rural District Council, from my professional colleagues in the
area and from the Staff of your Authority, and,

I have the Honour to be, Mr. Chairman, Ladies
and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

P. JACOB GAFFIKIN
Medical Officer of Health.

Health Department,
13, Tonbridge Road,
Maidstone.

August 10th. 1956.

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MEMBERS:

Mr. L. M. Apps	Mr. W. A. Mattinson
Mr. E. J. Belton	Mr. B. J. Mercer
Mr. H. A. Boxall	Mrs. K. S. Mitchell
Mr. F. E. Foreman	Mr. T. P. W. Oxendale
Mr. C. H. Groom	Mr. W. H. Still
Mr. A. W. Hooker	Mr. D. Taylor
Mr. L. Langley	Mr. R. Tolhurst

Mr. H.L.Shearn.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

-- of the --

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT

Medical Officer of Health	-	P. Jacob Gaffikin, M.C., T.D., M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	-	Chas. W. Page, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspectors	-	Geoffrey H. Chambers, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I., Cert. S.I.B., A.A.B.S.S. Stanley Brook, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B.
Cleansing Superintendent	-	Lionel P. Datson, M.M.,
Clerk	-	F. A. Wright.



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SECTION "A"

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area	56810 Acres
Estimated Resident Population 1955	16,730
Number of inhabited houses, end of 1955 (according to rate-books)	5,310
Rateable Value	£92,556
Sum represented by a penny rate	£370. 10s. 6d.

Extracts from Vital
Statistics

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Live Births - Legitimate	219	105	114
Illegitimate	16	9	7

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popula- tion	Crude - 14.04
	Corrected - 14.74

<u>Still Birth</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
	9	5	4
Rate per 1,000 Births (Live and Still)	36.88		

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
	184	93	91
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	Crude	- 11.00	
	Corrected	- 9.68	

Deaths from puerperal
causes (Headings 29 and
30 of the Registrar-
General's Short List)

	<u>Rate per 1,000 total Births</u>
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	Nil
No. 30 Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	Nil

Death Rate of infants under
1 year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births	17.02
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births	18.26
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live births	Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	33
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis	Nil

SECTION "B"

General Provision of Health Services in the Area

In previous Reports I have made comment on the variety of organisations and agencies which are concerned with the health services of the country, - the National Health Service with its network of general practitioners, consultants and the hospital organisation through Regional Hospital Boards and local Hospital Management Committees and the health services provided by the County and County Borough Councils, with the number of essential services which are still entrusted to the Local Authorities which have not County or County Borough status. The National Health Service is concerned with curative medicine, and, as such, is in reality a "Sickness service" rather than a "Health service" but the efforts to ensure healthy environment, sound food and pure water, clean air and even safety on the highways, together with the advances that have been secured in preventative inoculation against actual infections, which are still the province and concern of local government, will do more to raise the standard of the national health than all the curative activities, pills, tablets, potions and certificates, which pile up the cost of the national health service. The Local Authorities may pride themselves that there is still a vital need for their work in the promotion of community health and well-being.

SECTION "C"

Water Supplies

The area of the Hollingbourn Rural District is served by the Water Undertakings of Mid-Kent, Maidstone and Chatham. One of the advantages of my serving as M.O.H. for the four contiguous Authorities is that I have analysed of samples of water from all these sources. Some of the wells and bore-holes belonging to these Companies are in the Hollingbourn Rural District; the new deep well and pumping station at Hocker's Lane were nearing completion at the end of 1955 and the Maidstone Water Company is also providing a new reservoir at Detling which, when completed, will provide twice the present storage capacity at that station. Extension of the Mid-Kent Company's main to serve the major portion of the parish of Hucking was carried out during the year. The anticipated extension in Back Street and Caring Lane, Leeds, was not carried out, but the final arrangements were almost completed at the end of 1955.

Piped water supply is now available in every part of the Rural District in which the physical contours admit. The Water Companies send me regular reports of the results of samples taken and examined by their own analysts and in addition, samples are taken by the Council's Officers in the main village centres, at monthly intervals and during the year under review, the reports on the water supplied by the Water Companies were highly satisfactory.

In addition, samples were taken from springs, wells, etc., and these were often of doubtful purity. Where necessary, treatment measures were advocated.

National Assistance Act 1948, Section 50. Again in 1955 there was one case in which the responsibility for a burial fell upon the Local Authority, though a portion of the cost was recoverable from national insurance.

Drainage and Sewerage.

In November 1955, work was begun on the sewerage of West Street and East Street, Harrietsham and the necessary enlargement of the sewage disposal plant.

Sanitary Conveniences.

The present position as regards the provision of sanitary conveniences and for the disposal of sewage is approximately as follows:-

Water Closets	3281
Pail Closets	1215
Privies	180
To cesspools or septic tank	3235
To sewers	937
To ditches, streams or no drainage at all.	120.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Your Chief Sanitary Inspector has furnished the following report on the work of his Department during the year:-

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The work of my department grows steadily each year, but the same number of staff have to try and cope.

The year under review saw the commencement of work on slum clearance and 1956 will see the new Food Hygiene Regulations in operation. I and my staff will of course continue to do as much as is possible, but it would be idle to pretend that we can carry to-day's load in an entirely satisfactory manner.

There was great activity in the matter of Improvement Grants; during the year a total of 36 applications being dealt with, 27 of which were approved. Details of these are given later in the report.

The year saw the beginning of a major change in the hop growing industry - the introduction of the hop picking machine. Six of the larger growers in your district operated machines for the 1955 season and it would seem that it is only a matter of time before all hops are so picked. The camps in your district were ~~again~~ conducted quite satisfactorily.

Cleansing.

A. Cesspool Emptying.

This work increased very considerably in 1955. I am trying to find suitable sites for permanent use for the disposal of loads, but am having much difficulty so far.

During the year I estimate that about 6,400,000 gallons of sewage were dealt with by this service.

A. Cesspool Emptying (contd).

The following table shows the monthly and yearly working for both 1955 and 1954.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Requests</u> <u>1954</u>	<u>Loads</u>	<u>Requests</u> <u>1955.</u>	<u>Loads.</u>
January	215	632	229	387
February	236	540	228	825
March	339	730	342	833
April	281	806	356	737
May	222	470	246	726
June	197	295	244	947
July	240	486	215	366
August	247	240	262	775
September	206	290	225	468
October	201	374	238	731
November	275	589	209	643
December	225	781	372	570
	<u>2884</u>	<u>6133</u>	<u>3166</u>	<u>8008</u>

an increase of 1,875 loads in 1955.

B. Refuse Collection.

Fortnightly collection of refuse throughout your district continued during the year and no serious complaint regarding the service was received.

I give below monthly totals of the refuse collected and delivered to Maidstone Corporation Destructor at Tovil for the years 1952 to 1955.

<u>Month</u>	<u>1952</u> <u>Tons.</u>	<u>1953</u> <u>Tons</u>	<u>1954</u> <u>Tons</u>	<u>1955</u> <u>Tons</u>
January	171	175	150	172
February	149	152	146	169
March	158	144	167	202
April	147	170	149	178
May	136	132	119	183
June	108	114	134	159
July	106	137	149	131
August	107	99	128	140
September	120	98	139	152
October	162	135	119	144
November	136	131	163	218
December	<u>167</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>174</u>
	<u>1667</u>	<u>1633</u>	<u>1739</u>	<u>2022</u>
Increase/Decrease on previous year.	+ 25	- 34	+106	+283

Summary of Inspections.

General

Visits for purpose of water sampling	44
Other visits connected with water supply	14
Civil Defence	14
Drainage	133
Sewage Disposal and Sewers	2613
Refuse displsal	904
Stables and Piggeries	1
Movable Dwellings	91
Hopper Camps	9
Factories with Power	163
Factories - non Power	105
Rodent Control	32

Summary of Inspections (contd).

Building Byelaws	. . . . .	784
Petroleum Stores	. . . . .	118
Shop Acts	. . . . .	11
Knackers Yards	. . . . .	21
Miscellaneous	. . . . .	287

Housing.

Initial Inspections under the Public Health Act	. . . . .	189
Revisits under the Public Health Act	. . . . .	166
Initial Inspections under the Housing Act	. . . . .	542
Revisits under the Housing Act	. . . . .	78
Initial Inspections of filthy and verminous premises	. . . . .	-
Revisits of filthy and verminous premises	. . . . .	-
Initial visits to overcrowded premises	. . . . .	-
Revisits to overcrowded premises	. . . . .	-
Visits to Council Cottages	. . . . .	206
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	. . . . .	85

Infectious Disease.

Visits for disinfection with or without enquiry	. . . . .	1
Other visits concerned with infectious disease	. . . . .	17

Food Premises.

Slaughterhouses	. . . . .	1047
Butchers	. . . . .	2
Fishmongers	. . . . .	-
Bakehouses	. . . . .	8
Dairies	. . . . .	14
Visits to collect Milk Samples	. . . . .	38
Restaurants and Cafes	. . . . .	26
Ice Cream Premises	. . . . .	5
Other Food Premises	. . . . .	2
Miscellaneous	. . . . .	7

Total visits for the
year 1955

7777

General Statistics.

General Sanitation and Housing Defects.

New drains provided or drains reconstructed	. . . . .	14
Houses provided with new water closets	. . . . .	1
Water closets repaired	. . . . .	5
New trapped wastes fitted to sinks	. . . . .	1
Cesspools and privy pits cleansed or repaired	. . . . .	902
Offensive accumulations removed	. . . . .	1
Verminous premises disinfected	. . . . .	-
Dampness remedied	. . . . .	8
Roofs repaired	. . . . .	9
Gutters and rainwater pipes repaired	. . . . .	5
Floors and staircases repaired	. . . . .	3
Walls and ceilings repaired	. . . . .	9
Windows and doors repaired	. . . . .	4
Grates and ranges repaired or renewed	6

Water Supplies.

Houses connected to mains in 1955	3
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Infectious Disease.

Notifications received	316
Visits made by Sanitary Inspector	18
Number of rooms disinfected	. . . . .	10
Number of vehicles disinfected	. . . . .	-
Patients removed to Isolation Hospital	. . . . .	7

Notices.

Number of informal notices served	83
Number of informal notices complied with	56
Number of Statutory Notices served	6
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	4
Number of Court Proceedings to require compliance with Notice. (Note: in each case Court Orders were made and the work subsequently executed)	3

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health
(inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of -		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	51	163	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	26	105	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (excluding outworkers' premises)	34	86	-	-
TOTAL	111	354	1	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	24	24	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork.)	2	2	-	-	-
TOTAL	26	26	-	-	-

3. Outwork

Nature of work	Number of outworkers in August List required by Section 110 (1) (c).
Wearing Apparel making etc.	2

Camping Sites.

The only site in the district which is at Harrietsham remains to satisfy the needs of the district. The site is privately owned and therefore the intending occupants have to satisfy the owner as to the type of caravan proposed. This does present difficulties when caravans other than the proprietary type want accommodation.

Smoke Apatement.

The only large factories are the Marley Floor Tile Works and the Bacon Factory at Lenham, and no nuisances from the chimneys has so far been experienced.

Swimming Baths & Pools.

The only pool in the district is in the open air and is at the Public School at Sutton Valence.

Vermin.

The department has continued to deal with requests for extermination of vermin. Minor infestations of cockroaches occur at Lenham Sanatorium, larger numbers being prevented by the action of the staff.

Bed bugs and fleas have not occasioned any visits.

Flies hibernating in roof spaces have caused a considerable amount of work. The limited equipment available has been able to deal effectively with houses, but the larger roof spaces of hotels have presented difficulties in adequate distribution of liquid spray.

SECTION "D".

Housing.

The following information regarding housing in the Rural District is set out in the form in which it is asked for by the Ministry of Health:-

1. Inspections of dwellinghouses during the year:-

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	731.
	(b)	Numbers of inspections made for the purpose.	...	...	975.
(2)	(a)	Numbers of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1932.	...	...	-
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	...	...	-
(3)		Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	...	...	1
(4)		Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	...	...	254

2. Remedy of defects during the year, without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	...	160
---	-----	-----

3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-			
	(a) Proceedings under Sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	-
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...		-
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	...		-
	(a) By Owners	...	...	-
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...		-
	(c) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:-	...		
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	6
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-			
	(a) By Owners	...	...	4
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...		-
	(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-			
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	-
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	...		-
	(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-			
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	1
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	...	...	-
4.	Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.			
	Overcrowding.			
(a)	(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year...	...	...	-
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein.	...		-
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...		-
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	-
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	-
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	-
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	-

Housing Acts, 1949 & 1954.Improvement Grants.

No. of cottages in respect of which applications received.	...	...	39.
No. of applications approved	...	...	30.
Total cost of improvement work involved	...		£20,191.
Total amount of grants promised	...		£9,618
No. of cottages in which work was completed	...		20.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

The situation with regard to Licences to station and use movable dwellings is as follows:-

No. of applications received.	...	28
No. of licences issued	...	20
No. of applications refused.	...	8
No. of applications withdrawn	...	-
No. of proceedings	...	1
No. of appeals to Justices	...	-

The camp at Holm Mill, Harrietsham, was conducted very satisfactorily throughout the year.

STANDARD CONDITIONS.

1. In these conditions "Caravan" shall mean a Caravan which is specially designed for drawing by a private car.
2. No movable dwelling or other vehicle shall be placed on the site except a Caravan or vehicle by which such Caravan is towed.
3. No more than a stipulated number of Caravans shall be situated on the site and each Caravan shall be sited at least 20 feet from any other Caravan on the site.
4. No erection other than the Caravan shall be made or placed on the site except with the approval of the Council.
5. The Licensee shall obtain prior approval of the Council to the lay-out of the Caravan Site.
6. A wholesome supply of water shall be provided on the site taken from the mains of the appropriate Water Company which shall be available to the occupants of the Caravans by means of standpipes so situated that each Caravan is within 150 feet thereof.
7. The standpipes shall be properly protected against frost and shall be surrounded by an area of concrete 4 feet square and dished to a gully connected to the drainage system.
8. The licensee shall provide W.C.'s at the rate of one to each 5 Caravans with a minimum of two for the use of the occupants of the Caravans stationed and occupied upon the site. In addition, the licensee shall provide sufficient urinal accommodation for the use of the occupants.
9. The licensee shall provide a drainage system constructed in accordance with the Council's Building Byelaws and connected to the public sewer. (Alternatively, shall provide a drainage system and sewage disposal plant of sufficient capacity and to the satisfaction of the Council's Senior Sanitary Inspector).
10. The licensee shall provide in suitable positions trapped gullies connected to the drainage system to receive the waste water from the sink units in the Caravans and each gully shall be dished and curbed.

11. The licensee shall supply British Standard dustbins at the rate of 1 dustbin to every two Caravans and dustbins shall be brought to a convenient point for collection upon days to be agreed upon with the Council's Senior Sanitary Inspector.

12. The licensee shall be responsible for keeping the site clean and tidy and free from litter.

13. The licensee shall provide and maintain an access road from the highway to the site constructed of concrete or of hardcore or gravel or other suitable material, and also a clean access shall be provided to each Caravan.

14. All drains, connections, septic tanks and cesspools shall be constructed in accordance with the Council's Building Byelaws for the time being in force and the work connected therewith shall be carried out to the satisfaction of the Council and be maintained by the licensee in a proper sanitary condition.

15. The contents of chemical closets shall not be placed in the drainage system and the use of chemical closets in the Caravans shall not be permitted except in exceptional and extenuating circumstances.

16. No Caravan shall be used for sleeping more than a reasonable number of persons.

17. Adequate provision shall be made for fire fighting purposes.

18. The licensee shall provide a copy of these conditions to each occupant of a Caravan on his first entry on to the site.

On the 31st. December, a census showed that the following Caravans were licensed and stationed within the district.

There is evidence that there is still a steady demand for this type of temporary housing accommodation, but with the freeing of the licensing situation we can look forward to a progressive reduction in this number, which is eight less than in 1954.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No. of Caravans.</u>
Boughton Malherbe	-
Bicknor	-
Boxley	3
Bredhurst	-
Broomfield	1
Chart Sutton	1
Detling	2
East Sutton	-
Frinsted	-
Harrietsham	3
Headcorn	4
Hollingbourne	1
Hucking	1
Langley	2
Leeds	-
Lenham	4
Otterden	2
Stockbury	2
Sutton Valence	3
Thurnham	3
Ulcombe	2
Wichling	-
Wormshill	-
	<hr/> 34 <hr/>

In addition there were several other caravans occupied by nomads which were temporarily stationed within the district, during strawberry, hard fruit and hop picking seasons.

contd.

Hopper Camps.

Main water is now available to all the camps in your area and minor improvements were made to the accommodation in several instances.

Six hop-picking machines were in operation in the area.

SECTION "E"

Inspection of Food.

Meat Inspection.

Every animal slaughtered in your district for human consumption is examined by your inspectors.

	<u>Sheep & Lambs.</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves.</u>
Number killed	6674	22736	1360	372
Number inspected	6674	22736	1360	372

All diseases except Tuberculosis.

(a) Whole carcasses condemned	1	13	1	-
(b) Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned.	11	1873	125	-
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	0.18	830	9.26	-

Tuberculosis only

(a) Whole carcasses condemned	-	6	5	-
(b) Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	-	325	246	-
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	-	1.46	18.46	-

Weight of Food condemned during the year

	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>	<u>Ozs.</u>
Meat	5	4	1	3	0
Other Food - 671 gallons of Algerian Carrots.				19	0

In addition, a number of sheep and pigs' carcasses have been inspected at the request of butchers and pig clubs but no serious diseased conditions were found.

Water Supply.

Samples.

A total of 53 samples of water were submitted for examination with the following results:-

Bacteriological Examination.

Type of Water	No. of Samples	Results	
		Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory
Main	48	-	48
Raw	2	2	-

Chemical Examination.

Main	-	-	-
Raw	3	3	-

Carting of Water.

During the year under review thirty-five requests have been met and a total of 17,150 gallons supplied.

Milk and Dairies.

The number of dairymen registered on the 31st December 1955 is as follows:-

Dairies registered	2
Distributors registered	21

Dealers' Licences.

Pasteurised	5
Sterilized	5
Tuberculin Tested	4

Supplementary Licences.

Pasteurised	11
Sterilized	6
Tuberculin Tested	12

Ice Cream.

Ice Cream is retailed from 30 registered shops in the district and in addition 14 restaurants and cafes serve it. All ice cream is prepared and samples taken have shown good results. There are no places where the commodity is manufactured in this district.

Food Hygiene.

Clean Food Campaign.

The premises in the Rural District in which food is prepared, served and sold are as follows:-

Cafes and Restaurants	15
Residential Hotel	1
Roadhouse	1
Public Houses serving meals	3
Public Houses not serving meals.	57

Progress in the improvement of food shops, cafes and restaurants continues.

The number of premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, Section 14, are as follows:-

- (1) For the sale and storage of ice cream 30.
- (2) Preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pickled, pressed or preserved food intended for sale ... 3.
- (3) Number of Dairies registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 2.

Disposal of Condemned Food.

The condemned food from licensed slaughterhouses is in most cases collected by the Sheppey Glue Works, Queenborough. Small quantities of condemned food are disposed of by incineration, either at the Maidstone Borough Destructor or in the furnace at the Lenham Bacon Factory.

Food Sampling.

In addition to the inspection and sampling carried out by your officers, the sampling officers of the County Council also take regular samples of all types of food and, as these are of interest, I am including a list supplied by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures.

<u>Article.</u>		<u>No.</u>
Apples	...	1
Back-ache and Kidney Pills	...	1
Baking Powder	...	1
Balsam of Aniseed	...	1
Becchams Powders	...	1
Beer, Bitter	...	2
Beer, Mild	...	2
Brussel Sprouts	...	1
Butter	...	1
Buttered Assortment	...	1
Buttered Cracker Biscuits	...	1
Cake Mix	...	1
Clotted Cream Toffee	...	1
Custard Cream Biscuits	...	1
Flavoured Cornflour	...	1
Gin	...	1
Ground Rice	...	1
Instart Pudding	...	1
Lard	...	1
Liquafruta	...	1
Lung Syrup	...	2
Meat Pie	...	2
Milk	...	44
Mixed Peel	...	1
Orange Squash	...	1
Potatoes	...	1
Quince Conserve	...	1
Semolina	...	1
Syrup of Figs	...	1
Tea	...	2
Tomatoes	...	1
Whisky	...	2
		<hr/> 81 <hr/>

<u>SUMMARY.</u>		
Milks	...	44
Drugs	...	7
Spirits	...	3
Other Samples		27
		<hr/> 81 <hr/>

All the above samples were genuine with the exception of the following:-

<u>Sample of</u>	<u>Analysis.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
Hot Milk	Contained 6.0% extraneous water.	Written caution.
Meat Pie.	Meat 12.0%	) Should have been sold) as meat pasties.) Written caution.
Meat Pie	Meat 17.0%	
Milk.	Contained 14.2% added water.	Proceedings taken on follow up samples. Producer fined £5. Cross summons against cowman dismissed.
Milk	Contained 6.0% added water.	Faulty apparatus. Follow up samples satisfactory. Written caution.

<u>Sample of</u>	<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Milk	13.3% deficient in fat	Follow up samples proved genuine. No further action.
Milk	6.7% deficient in fat	No action. Further samples to be obtained.

Pest Control

The work of destruction of rats and mice has continued satisfactorily and the public co-operation continues satisfactorily. The new operator has proved to be a very satisfactory worker and his additional knowledge as a gamekeeper is invaluable.

The Council purchased a 5 cwt. van during the year which has greatly facilitated the work of the operator. He formerly used a motor cycle.

The Summary of the work done is given below, and compared with 1951, 1952, 1953 and 1954.

	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Number of visits made for all purposes, including survey and treatment	3097	3384	3424	2601	4108
Number of premises surveyed	1147	1850	1993	1309	2520
Number of infestations found	403	545	485	524	543
Number of infestations treated	406	537	462	502	564
Number of bodies found					988

To conclude, I should like to express my appreciation of the help and co-operation afforded me during the year by the whole of my staff.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. W. PAGE

Surveyor and Senior
Sanitary Inspector

SECTION "F"

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease.

During 1955 the only notifiable disease which showed any markedly high incidence was measles in which the number of cases notified amounted to 235. This disease was prevalent in the S.E. of England in the past year and adjacent Districts were similarly affected. The disease was of a mild type and only one case needed admission to hospital. Three cases of poliomyelitis were notified and admitted to hospital but happily there were no deaths. Two cases of dysentery and one of food poisoning were reported and the need for constant care and vigilance among all persons engaged in the handling of food cannot be too strongly emphasised.

In the following tables I give details of the notifications of disease, the number admitted to hospital and deaths from each infection. The subsequent tables which have been kindly supplied by the County Medical Officer show the number of vaccinations against small-pox and of immunisations against diphtheria carried out during the year and also the number of children in the area, under 15 years of age on December 31st 1955 who had completed a course of immunisation before that date, i.e. at any time since January 1st. 1941.

The Hollingbourn Rural District has the pleasing record that there has been no case of diphtheria in the District for 9 years. This is a great achievement and can be accepted as sure evidence of the value of immunisation but this happy state of affairs can only be ensured for future years if the need for immunisation is appreciated and as large a proportion of the children as possible are protected by early immunisation and the needful subsequent re-inforcing doses. Neglect of this opens the door wide to a return of diphtheria in the community.

The notifications of Infectious Disease, other than Tuberculosis, during 1955, were as follows:-

Disease	Total of cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total deaths
Scarlet Fever	3	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Measles	235	1	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	-
Pneumonia	-	-	7
Dysentery	2	-	-
Whooping cough	59	-	-
Acute anterior Poliomyelitis	3	3	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-
Malaria	1	1	-
Totals	306	6	7

Immunisation against Diphtheria and
Vaccination against Smallpox, 1955.

The following is a return of (A) the number of children resident in the Rural District of Hollingbourn who were immunised against diphtheria and (B) the number of persons who were vaccinated against smallpox, during the year ended 31st December, 1955:-

(A) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Year of Birth	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	Total
Primary Inoculations	27	119	18	3	1	4	5	1								178
Re-inforcing Inoculations	-	-	-	-	4	58	19	7	11	6	4	24	1	3	1	138
(B) <u>VACCINATION.</u>																
Year of Birth	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	Total
Primary Inoculations	123	50	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	3	180
Re-Vaccination	1							1						1	17	20
															Before 1941	

Rural District of Hollingbourn.
Immunisation against Diphtheria, 1955

The following is a return of the number of children under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1955, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e., at any time since 1st. January, 1941).

Year of Birth	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1951 - 1955	7	11	59	69	74	169	139	117	134	173	167	185	156	142	27	1629
1950 or earlier	174	118	77	78	74	33	14	72	108	6	-	-	-	-	-	754

Below is an analysis of the deaths from malignant diseases according to age groups. No information is available as to the incidence of cancer in any particular occupation.

Deaths from Cancer during 1955.

Under Age Groups.

<u>Age</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female.</u>
0 - 1	-	-
2 - 5	-	-
6 - 15	-	-
16 - 25	-	-
26 - 35	-	-
36 - 45	1	2
46 - 55	2	2
56 - 65	3	3
66 and over.	8	12
Totals	14	19

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

- (1) Total number of cases notified during the year. NIL
- (2) Number of cases in which:
- (a) Vision lost NIL
 - (b) Vision impaired NIL
 - (c) Treatment continuing at end of year ... NIL

Tuberculosis.

<u>Age Period.</u>	<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 -15	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
16 -25	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 -35	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36 -45	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
46 -55	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
56 -65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
66 or over	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTALS	8	1	1	-	1	1	NIL	

The number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis was 2. Only 1 of which had been notified.

In the area which includes the Malling Rural District as well as the Borough and the Rural District of Maidstone and the Hollingbourn Rural District, the Centre for the diagnosis, treatment and after-care of cases of tuberculosis is situated at Foster Street, Maidstone.

Close co-operation between the Chest Clinic and the Health Departments of the four Authorities has continued during the year and Dr. David Pugh, the Chest Physician for the Mid-Kent area has kindly supplied me with figures of the number of contacts of known cases of tuberculosis which were examined during the year and the number diagnosed as tuberculous.

These figures relate to area served by the Chest Clinic.

(a) Number of contacts seen during 1955, of newly notified cases of Tuberculosis	...	...	352
(b) Number of contacts, seen during 1955, of cases notified prior to 1955	...	...	360
(c) Number of contacts in (a) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	6
(d) Number of contacts in (b) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	5

During 1955, there was no visit of the Mass Radiography Service Units to this area, the last such visit being in 1953, but a visit was arranged for the early months of 1956, when a larger number of Centres was available to the public than in the 1953 visit, and preliminary figures which are available indicate that this policy resulted in an increased attendance by the general public amounting to an increase over the 1953 figures of 5,099. Fuller details will be available later and the results of the 1956 survey included in the Report for that year.

The arrangements at the Chest Clinic for the tracing and following-up of contacts have continued to work satisfactorily and in the after care of tuberculous patients and their dependants, the Maidstone and District Tuberculosis After-care Committee has done much valuable work, and this body, with the more recent organisation, the "Friends of Foster Street" is deserving of the fullest support.

Total Deaths 1955.

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1
2. Tuberculosis, other.	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute Polio-myelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.	-	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	1	2
11. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	3	-
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast.	-	6
13. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus.	-	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic Neoplasm.	10	10
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	2	-
16. Diabetes	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.	15	15
18. Coronary Disease, angina	15	7
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	2	3
20. Other heart disease.	19	16
21. Other circulatory disease	5	5
22. Influenza	-	2
23. Pneumonia.	4	3
24. Bronchitis	6	4
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	2	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital Malformations	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	12
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
34. All other accidents	-	-
35. Suicide	-	1
36. Homicide and operations of war.	-	-
	<hr/> 93 <hr/>	<hr/> 91 <hr/>

Birth Rate, Death Rate and Analysis of Mortality for 1955.

	Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population										Rate per 1,000 live Births
	Rate per 1,000 of Popln.	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	Whooping Cough	Polio-myelitis	Smallpox	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Total deaths under 1 year
England & Wales	15.0	23.2	11.7	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.07	24.9
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	14.9	23.2	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.06	25.1
160 Smaller Towns (Resident Popula- tion 25,000 - 50,000 at 1951 Census)	15.1	20.2	11.5	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.05	25.2
Hollingbourn R.D.C.	14.74	36.88	9.68	-	-	-	-	-	0.12	0.12	17.02

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales
1955

<u>Cause</u>	<u>No. of Deaths</u>	<u>Rates per 1,000 total of Births (Live & Still)</u>
Maternal causes.	438	0.57

HOLLINGBOURN RURAL DISTRICT
1955.

	<u>Puerperal Infections.</u>	<u>Others</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Per 1,000 Total Births	Nil	Nil	Nil.

Infantile Mortality 1955.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks.	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 3 mths	3 - 6 mths	7 - 9 mths	10 - 12 mths	Total deaths under 1 year
Measles										
Whooping Cough										
Scarlet Fever										
Diphtheria										
Tuberculosis										
Meningitis (Non-tubercular)										
Enteritis										
Bronchitis										
Pneumonia		1			1	1				2
Diarrhoeal Diseases										
Syphilis										
Rickets										
Suffocating (over-laying)										
Injury at Birth										
Atelectasis										
Congenital Malformation										
Premature Birth	2				2					2
Atrophy or Debility										
Marasmus										
Other Causes										
TOTALS	2	1			3	1				4

The above deaths occurred in the following Parishes:-

Sutton Valence

2

Headcorn

1

Boughton Malherbe

1

Deaths per month in each Parish

1955 Month	Boxley	Headcorn and Hawkenbury	Wormshill	Lenham	Bredhurst	Frintsted	Leeds and Broomfield	Thurnham	Otterden	Boughton Malherbe	Detling	Bicknor	Hollingbourne.	East Sutton	Chart Sutton	Wychling	Hucking	Stockbury	Langley	Harrietsham	Ulcombe	Sutton Valence	Walderslade	TOTALS
January	1			4		1	1		1				1	1					1	2		1		14
February	2	4	1	3	1	1		1							2					2	2	2		18
March		5		5				1	1					2					1	2		2		19
April	2	2			1		1	1	1	1			1	1				4		3				18
May	2	1		3				2	1	1	1	1	1				1	1		2	2	2		19
June		3		2	1				1	1	2		1								1	1		13
July	1	1		3	1		1							1					1	1		2	1	13
August	3	1		1					1		2		1	1	1		1				2			14
September		1		3			1	1	1		1			1										9
October	2	2	1	1				2				3			2		1				1	2		17
November	2	1		2	1						1									1	2			10
December	3	4	1	3	1			1	1		1			2					1		1	1		20
TOTALS	18	25	3	30	6	2	4	8	8	3	8		8	9	5			7	4	11	11	13	1	184

Analysis of Cases of Notifiable Diseases.

Disease	Under 1	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10-14	15-24	25-45	46-65	66 & over	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever				2		1				3
Diphtheria										
Measles	2	24	59	140	6	1	3			235
Erysipelas										
Puerperal Pyrexia						2				2
Pneumonia										
Dysentery				1				1		2
Whooping Cough	3	6	11	33	2	2	2			59
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis				1			2			3
Food Poisoning							1			1
Chicken Pox										
Anthrax										
Malaria							1			
TOTALS	5	30	70	177	8	5	9	1		306

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Estimated Resident Population	...	16,730
Area (Acres)	...	56,810
Persons per acre	...	.294
Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	Crude Corrected	14. 04 14. 74
Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population	Crude Corrected	11. 00 9. 68
Births - Male 114 Female 121		235
Deaths - Male 93 Female 91		184
Excess of Births over Deaths		51
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 Population		.05
Other Tuberculosis Death rate per 1,000 Population		.05
Cancer Death rate per 1,000 population		1 .97
Pneumonia (all forms) Death rate per 1,000 Population		0 .418

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